

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 33

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR WILSON.

Pre-filed December 1, 2008, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

0405S.011

AN ACT

To amend chapter 160, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the Missouri Strive to Succeed Graduation Program.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 160, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 160.951, to read as follows:

160.951. 1. There is hereby established the "Missouri Strive to Succeed Graduation Program", which shall be implemented and administered by the department of elementary and secondary education.

2. The department of elementary and secondary education shall establish procedures by which school districts may apply for grant awards from the Missouri strive to succeed graduation program fund in order for such districts to implement student drop-out prevention strategies. The department may award grants for a period of one to five consecutive years. Upon expiration of the initial grant, the district may apply for an extension of the grant award for a period of time deemed appropriate by the district and the department.

3. The department shall give preference to school districts that propose to target students across the age spectrum, from pre-kindergarten through early adulthood and that employ the following characteristics:

(1) A collaborative approach between the school district and various community organizations, which may include non-profit organizations, local governmental organizations, law enforcement agencies, approved public institutions and approved private institutions as such terms are defined in section 173.1102, RSMo, and

22 institutions able to deliver proven, research-based intervention
23 services;

24 (2) Early intervention strategies, including family engagement,
25 early childhood education, early literacy development, family literacy,
26 and mental health detection and treatment;

27 (3) The implementation or augmentation of the following basic
28 core strategies for drop-out prevention:

29 (a) Mentoring;

30 (b) Tutoring;

31 (c) Alternative schooling;

32 (d) Career and technical education; and

33 (e) Before and after school programs;

34 (4) Increased accountability measures that track at-risk students
35 that leave the district; and

36 (5) The implementation of early intervention strategies for
37 students who display strong indicators that they will not graduate.

38 4. In order to be eligible for a grant under this program, a school
39 district shall:

40 (1) Be classified as unaccredited, provisionally accredited, or
41 interim accredited by the state board of education;

42 (2) Have obtained a score on its most recent annual performance
43 review consistent with a classification of unaccredited or provisionally
44 accredited; or

45 (3) Have not met the graduation rate performance standard as
46 indicated on its most current annual performance review.

47 5. The department of elementary and secondary education shall
48 promulgate rules necessary to implement this section, including:

49 (1) A procedure by which funds shall be allocated to school
50 districts to implement student drop-out prevention strategies; and

51 (2) Criteria to judge the effectiveness of participating school
52 districts' student drop-out prevention programs under the Missouri
53 strive to succeed graduation program.

54 Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010,
55 RSMo, that is created under the authority delegated in this section
56 shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of
57 the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, and, if applicable, section 536.028,
58 RSMo. This section and chapter 536, RSMo, are nonseverable and if any

59 of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter
60 536, RSMo, to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and
61 annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of
62 rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August
63 28, 2009, shall be invalid and void.

64 6. The department of elementary and secondary education may
65 cease grant payments to any school district at any time if the
66 department determines that funds are being misused or if the district's
67 student drop-out prevention program is determined to be
68 ineffective. The department of elementary and secondary education
69 shall provide written notice of a decision to discontinue payments of
70 funds to a school district at least thirty days prior to the cessation of
71 such payments.

72 7. The department of elementary and secondary education shall
73 annually report the following information to the general assembly and
74 the governor, no later than January fifteenth:

75 (1) The recipients and amounts of the grants awarded under this
76 section; and

77 (2) Data on the graduation rate of each school district that
78 receives funding under this program from the preceding five years.

79 8. The general assembly shall annually appropriate an amount
80 sufficient to properly fund the provisions of this section, which shall be
81 a minimum of five million dollars in any fiscal year.

82 9. There is hereby created in the state treasury "The Missouri
83 Strive to Succeed Graduation Program Fund", which shall consist of
84 money collected under this section. The state treasurer shall be
85 custodian of the fund and may approve disbursements from the fund in
86 accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, RSMo. Upon appropriation,
87 money in the fund shall be used solely for the administration of this
88 section. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080, RSMo, to the
89 contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium
90 shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund. The state
91 treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other
92 funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such
93 investments shall be credited to the fund.

94 10. Pursuant to section 23.253, RSMo, of the Missouri Sunset Act:

95 (1) Any new program authorized under this section shall

96 automatically sunset six years after the effective date of this section
97 unless reauthorized by an act of the general assembly; and

98 (2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized
99 under this section shall automatically sunset twelve years after the
100 effective date of the reauthorization of this section; and

101 (3) This section shall terminate on September first of the
102 calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which a
103 program authorized under this section is sunset.

Unofficial

Bill

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